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JAAA Newsletter * October 2006

RECENT EVENTS:

JAPAN IN JACKSONVILLE

On Thursday, October 12, 2006, JAAA hosted a reception at the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens featuring Japan in Jacksonville: The Cummer Collection of Japanese Prints. Dr. Maarten van de Gauchte, Museum Director, welcomed the JAAA group and Holly Kerris, Museum Curator, led tours of the exhibit. Ms. Kayo Ishimaru, Principal Harpist with the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra and her husband Dickie Fleisher, Principal Harpist with

the Naples Philharmonic, played traditional Japanese music.

In addition to JAAA members and special guests, 14 Directors of the Jacksonville Beaches Fine Arts Series also attended. Dr. Lee, Professor of Chemistry & Physics at FCCJ, wrote: "We thoroughly enjoyed the JAAA night and 'Japan in Jacksonville' at the Cummer Museum. We'd like to express our appreciation and to acknowledge your hard work in presenting such an impressive and very successful celebration of Asian diversity in Jacksonville."



The Cummer Reception was sponsored by **Admiral Max Morris, Mr. John Uible, St. Joe Company, and SunTrust Mortgage**. Food & beverage donors include **Sushi Rock Cafe, China King, Kilwins Ice Cream, Riverside Liquors, and National Liquors**. The beautiful Japanese flower arrangement was donated by **Carousel Flowers**, owned and operated by JAAA members Kevin and Ann Nguyen.

GET YOUR PIECE OF THE PIE!

On October 5, 2006, JAAA co-hosted a workshop for Disadvantaged Business Enterprises with the Jacksonville Aviation Authority (JAA), The Jacksonville Transportation Authority, and Shands

Jacksonville. Fifty-seven JAAA members and friends attended the seminar held at Jax Aviation Authority's offices at the airport. The panel, moderated by Derrick Willoughby who is DBE Administrator for JAA, talked about how to "get a piece of the pie" by presenting opportunities for small businesses, investment opportunities, and jobs openings and positions available including internship programs. A packet of valuable information was distributed to each attendee, which includes application forms for DBE certification. It was an informative session and attendees gave positive feedback. Comments include: *Very useful; Invite me again and keep up the good work; Congratulations on this concise and important workshop; Well organized seminar.*



DIMSUM NIGHT WAS A BIG HIT!

On Saturday, September 23, 2006, the Jacksonville Asian American Alliance and the Multi-Cultural Network co-hosted an Asian Food Experience Dinner featuring Chinese Dim Sum held at China King on Beach Blvd.

Eighty (80) guests representing 22 countries (Australia, Barbados, Belaruz, Canada, China, England, Finland, France, Indonesia, Iran, Germany, Greece, Japan, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Singapore, Surinam, Taiwan, Venezuela, and Vietnam) attended this specially prepared dinner which included Peking duck, stir fried rice noodle, rice noodle roll with shrimp,



crabmeat ball, steamed pork dumpling (Siu Mai), steamed shrimp dumpling (Har Gar), pan fried Chinese chives and meat, steamed sticky rice chicken wrapped in lotus leaf, pan fried turnip cake, steamed spare ribs in black bean sauce, steamed sweet red bean bun and sweet egg custard.

In addition to great cuisine, guests learned the history of Dim Sum and how to use chopsticks.



CONFERENCE ON CHINA

JAAA Directors Gloria Chu and Dunsong Yang and member Teresa Du represented the Jacksonville Asian American Alliance at a research conference, **China as an Emerging Superpower: Challenges for China and the United States**, sponsored by UNF Coggin College of Business and Beijing International Studies University (BISU). JAAA helped facilitate language translation for a group of Chinese professors from BISU.]

The event kicked off with dinner at the River Club on October 19, followed by a full-day session at the University Center on UNF campus. Dr. Jeffrey Michelman, Associate Professor at UNF, hopes "the conference will lead to new initiatives in Jacksonville that recognize the importance of not only Chinese/American business opportunities but a deeper understanding of each other's history and culture."

GLOBAL ECONOMIC FORUM

On October 24, 2006, JAAA President Anjna Chauhan attended a global economic forum at the River Club hosted by the World Affairs Council of Jacksonville. The topic was **India: What Americans Should Know About This Emerging Power**. The Honorable Thomas Pickering was guest speaker. Pickering was former U.S. Undersecretary of State for Political Affairs and held the personal rank of Career Ambassador, the highest in the U.S. Foreign Service. He has served as U.S. Ambassador to India.

Anjna Chauhan commented, "There is a large Indian community in Jacksonville. They own businesses like other groups. We have to recognize

their contributions to Jacksonville and to the strength of America's economy and culture."

The Global Economic Forum offers invaluable insight into international political, economic, business and financial trends - information that is important to First Coast businesses as they make both short and long-term development, staffing and investment decisions.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

On Sunday afternoon, October 15, 2006, Anjna Chauhan (JAAA President), Tess Galino (JAAA VP for Press Relations), and member Archie Paez volunteered at the Fall Festival for pediatric cancer patients hosted by the Tom Coughlin Jay Fund Foundation. The festival was held at Adventure Landing.

"It is the most worthwhile volunteer work I've ever done! Seeing children having so much fun in spite of their condition touched my heart. I thoroughly enjoyed my time with the kids," commented Tess Galino.

The Tom Coughlin Jay Fund Foundation assists children with leukemia and other cancers and their families during the course of their illness. The Foundation also supports clinical and laboratory research in leukemia and other childhood cancers that will be of benefit to these children and their families.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE:

Welcome to our new members! JAAA is now more than a hundred members strong and growing. Sixteen new members joined JAAA at the Cummer Reception. Five members signed up at the DBE workshop. The list of members are posted on JAAA's website (www.jaxaaa.org).

JAAA is also pleased to announce that the Vietnamese Student Association (VSA) at the University of North Florida has also joined JAAA. We are proud of this group of young people for their commitment to making a difference in our community. We hope VSA's membership will encourage other student organizations to join JAAA as well.

Except for new members, many of you have received removable JAAA stickers and membership I.D. cards. Please use your I.D. when attending JAAA events. In addition, several business members are offering discounts to JAAA members. Please visit our website (www.jaxaaa.org, click on membership) for a list of businesses offering special discounts to JAAA members. Please take advantage of this benefit by presenting your JAAA identification card. If you are a JAAA business member and would like to offer special discount to other members, please send a message to info@jaxaaa.org and we will add your company to the list.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Thanksgiving Food Drive to benefit The City Rescue Mission. - - Beginning November 1, 2006, JAAA will collect canned goods and other nonperishable food items for the City Rescue Mission to help needy families during Thanksgiving and the holiday season. Drop-off locations will be announced soon. If you own a business and would like to collect food items on JAAA's behalf, please let us know and we will place a collection box at your location.

Early Holiday Bash for JAAA Members and Friends. - - We will have an early Holiday Party to honor our members and friends. Tentative date is Sunday, December 3, 2006. Mark your calendars now!

Other Activities. - - Please visit the Activities page of our website (www.jaxaaa.org) for updates on other activities.

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

GET OUT AND VOTE - State and Federal General Election is on Tuesday, November 7, 2006. Please don't forget to vote. Let your voice be heard!

We value your comments and insights. If you have comments or would like additional information on any of the above, please send a message to info@jaxaaa.org.

Thank you for your support.

Directors and Officers
Jacksonville Asian American Alliance

<p>This Newsletter is published by the Jacksonville Asian American Alliance P.O. Box 56792 Jacksonville, FL 32241 email: info@jaxaaa.org Website: www.jaxaaa.org</p>
